

## Menomonie Urban Forestry Board Minutes

September 15, 2021 – 2:00pm – Council Chambers -1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### **Committee Members Present:**

Cindy Gilberts (2.0 hrs)	Joe Jax (Chair) (3.0 hrs)	Dennis Kropp (10.0 hrs)
Mike Schendel (1.0 hr)	Nancy Schofield (Absent)	Mike Smith (2.0 hrs)
Bob Giede (Absent)	John Anshus (2.0 hrs)	Eric Sutherland (2.0 hrs)

**Roll Call of Guests and Members Present:** Megan Hine, Dick Henning, Randy Eide, and Tammy Eckert present.

The meeting was called to order by Joe Jax, Chair. Roll call was taken to those appearing in person. Volunteer hours worked were recorded.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** The August 18, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed. Dennis Kropp made the motion to accept those minutes and John Anshus seconded. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** - None

**2022 Urban Forestry Budget Discussion:** Randy Eide reports that the UFB budget has been \$14k per year for the last three years. We've used funds to purchase trees, plant trees, treating Ash Trees, and classroom costs. It was recommended we keep the budget at \$14k for 2022. Currently, there is \$5k left of the budget for 2021. There was discussion among the board regarding how the remaining budget could be spent. A motion was made by Mike Schendel to keep the budget for 2022 at \$14k and Dennis Kropp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Additional Ash Benches Placement:** Dick Henning updated the board on a missing park bench and its recovery. Again, suggestions for bench placement were to place one at the City Government Center, 2 (two) at Wilson Park, one at the disc park and others could be placed at the Library or Senior Center.

**Items to add to the agenda Discussion only:** With the remaining \$5K of the budget for 2021, there were recommendations to purchase more chemicals for treating the Ash Trees, buying containerized plants (as the gravel bed is quite full at this time with 82 existing trees), purchasing forestry equipment, and stump grinding.

**Ash Tree Treatment Plan:** Dick Henning reports that 18 trees were treated. The tree is slow to absorb the chemical at this time of year, plans are to start again in the Spring of 2022. Replacement type trees where dead Ash trees are removed include Kentucky Coffee, Buckeye, Turkish Filbert, Hackberry, Gingko, and Plane Trees that are currently in our gravel beds.

**City Tree Canopy Inventory:** Dick said species need to be added to the data base and he continues to update the data base as he determines what is necessary for removing and replacing trees. He will continue to report to the board as he and Megan continue to work to update the database.

**Items for Next Meeting Agenda:** LCIP Project – regarding removing invasive species at 5th Street West/the Galloway Creek location by the High School. 2022 Tree Planting recommendations and types of trees to be planted. Recommendation for spending remaining 2021 budget.

**Other City Council Updates:** Randy Eide reports that Jennifer Harris has filled the Ward 4 open position until the next election. Erik Sutherland spoke to the support of continuing (for the third year in a row) the Budget for The Urban Forestry Board 2022 budget of \$14,000. The Stout Rd Project is projected to start late May, Early June of 2022 and expected to continue thru late September.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Cindy Gilberts to adjourn and Dennis Kropp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes taken and submitted by: Tammy Eckert